

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Montana PPWGRP

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Montana PPWGRP		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will the application support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If the answer is "Yes", do not answer any other State level questions. If the answer is "No," proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will the offered acres include expired (within the last 2 years) or expiring (this calendar year) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres that will be maintained, enhanced, and or established as wetlands or grasslands?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will the offered acres include existing wetland and grassland that will be retained and have grazing and wildlife management practices scheduled on them?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will the offered acres include annually cropped acres that will be restored to wetlands, grasslands, and/or perennial forage?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will the offered acres include cropland on which the producer agrees to modify an existing crop rotation comprised of corn and soybeans to include; 1) pollinator friendly crops or; 2) fall seeded small grains to comprise a minimum of 50% of the crop rotation or; 3) Changing the crop rotation to include perennial grass or legumes in the crop rotation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will the offered acres include cropland acres that will be used as part of a prescribed grazing system that utilizes the grazing of crop stubble and/or cover crops?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Will the treatment you intend to implement result in wetlands being created, restored or enhanced?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Is the application located within a sub-region based on “USFWS Waterfowl Breeding Pairs Maps” which has more than 25 breeding duck pairs per square mile and will provide benefits to priority migratory bird species of concern (waterfowl and/or grassland birds)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Are the offered acres of land predominately of Land Capability Class (LCC) I-IV that are currently in grassland and at risk of conversion to cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Will the offered cropland acres include implementing the 340 cover crop practice to address wildlife habitat - food?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. The application includes conservation practices that will have a positive effect on Degraded Plant Condition – Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health, i.e. 327 Conservation Cover, 512 Forage and Biomass Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Are the acres located within 1 mile of protected wildlife habitat? (i.e., waterfowl production area, wildlife refuge, or land under a conservation easement)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Are the acres located within a Sage Grouse Core Area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Are the acres located adjacent to at least 640 acres of perennial grassland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Are the acres located within 1 mile of a wetland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

5. Are the acres located within 2 miles of an active sage grouse lek?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative: Signature Date:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy: Signature Date:
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